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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

10/088,732

Confirmation No. 4550

Applicant

Schmid et al. July 22, 2002

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Examiner

Lauren Q. Wells

Docket No.

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION PER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

October 27, 2004 Date Signature of certifier

Marlene Capreri

Typed or printed name of certifier

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Official Action of June 29, 2004, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered in the application and that the application be reconsidered in light of the amendments and the following discussion.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

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